

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8514

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 15187

NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VS

SUBJECT: JAPANESE CHARGE COMMENTS ON VIETNAM

1. WHILE WAITING AT VIENTIANE AIRPORT FOR DEPARTURE TO BANGKOK ON 24 DEC. CONFEN AND EMBASSY VIENTIANE OFFICERS MET WITH JAPANESE CHARGE TO HANOI, IMAGAWA, WHO BETWEEN PLANE CHANGES, PROVIDED FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON EVENTS IN HANOI.

2. IMAGAWA SAID THAT HE HAD JUST ARRIVED FROM HANOI WHERE HE(ALONG WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS) ATTENDED A MEETING OF THE DRV NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TO HEAR TRUONG CHINH READ HIS REPORT ON VIETNAMESE REUNIFICATION. IMAGAWA NOTED THAT TRUONG CHINH FACILITATED MATTERS FOR THE ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES BY PUNCTUATING THE REPORT WITH HIS OWN APPLAUSE WHEREUPON THE DEPUTIES WOULD JOIN IN. APPROVAL OF THE REPORT WAS UNANIMOUS.

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3. IMAGAWA NOTED THAT THE THREE-MAN JAPANESE DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN HANOI WAS STILL CAMPED IN TWO ROOMS OF A HANOI HOTEL. THE RECENTLY ARRIVED FIVE-MAN IRAQI MISSION REPORTEDLY COMPLAINED THAT THE JAPANESE HAD BETTER ROOMS, APPARENTLY IN RETURN FOR THE GENEROUS JAPANESE AID PROGRAM.

4. THE DRV MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS INDICATED THAT THE FOUR JAPANESE DIPLOMATICS IN SAIGON MAY STAY ON. THE JAPANESE HAVE NO INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE PRG IF THERE ARE CONDITIONS ATTACHED (I.E; REPARATIONS). THE JAPANESE HOPE TO ESTABLISH A CONSULATE GENERAL IN SAIGON AFTER REUNIFICATION. THE SAIGON OFFICE IS ABLE TO SEND MAIL (BUT NO POUCH) TO HANOI AND USUALLY TELEPHONE TWICE A WEEK. THEY ARE ALSO ABLE TO SEND TELEGRAMS COMMERICALLY TO TOKYO IN THE CLEAR AT ONE DOLLAR PER WORD. IMAGAWA OBSERVED THAT THE JAPANESE ARE BETTER TREATED IN SAIGON THEN THEIR HUNGARIAN COLLEGUES. HE SAID THAT THE HUNGARIAN AMBASSADOR HAD BITTERLY COMPANIED TO HIM THAT THE HUNGARIAN DIPLOMATICS IN THE ICCS WERE BETTER TREATED UNDER THE THIEU REGIME THAN THEY ARE NOW UNDER THEIR SOCIALIST BROTHERS.

5. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 50 JAPANESE BUSINESSMEN--MOSTLY MARRIED TO VIETNAMESE--STILL IN SAIGON. THEY PRESENT SOMETHING OF A PROBLEM, AND THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE HAPPIER IF THEY LEFT. NO "FIRST CLASS" JAPANESE BUSINESSMAN HAVE VISITED SAIGON, BUT ONE MEMBER OF THE JAPANESE COMMUNIST PARTY REPRESENTING A COMMUNIST FIRM DID TRAVEL TO THE SOUTH AND CONCLUDED SOME LARGE DEALS.

6. A DRV MISSION OF FOUR OFFICIALS LED BY A CHARGE, TRAN DUC TUE, JUST DEPARTED HANOI AND IS EN ROUTE TO JAPAN TO OPEN THE DRV EMBASSY. THE PARTY IS TRAVELING BY RAIL TO PEKING AND WILL FLY FROM PEKING TO TOKYO AROUND JAN 6. THE MISSION IS COMPOSED OF: TRAN DUC TUE, LE HONG MINH, NGUYEN NGUYEN THIEU, NGUYEN TIEN SU. THE FIRST THREE ARE TRAVELING ON DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS AND SU IS TRAVELING ON AN OFFICIAL PASSPORT. PRIOR TO HIS ASSIGNMENT TO TOKYO, TUE WAS IN CHARGE OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS IN THE MFA. HE SPEAKS FRENCH AND SOME JAPANESE AND APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN EDUCATED

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IN MOSCOW. SU SPEAKS JAPANESE AND WAS EDUCATED IN A JAPANESE UNIVERSITY. HE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH JAPANESE AFFAIRS IN THE MFA.

7. IMAGAWA SAID THAT HE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION THE USG MIGHT HAVE ON THE DRV MISSION PERSONNEL AND SUGGESTED THAT ANY AVAILABLE DATA BE PASSED THROUGH HONG KONG OR EMBASSY VIENTIANE. CONGEN SUGGESTS INFO SHOULD ALSO BE

PASSED DIRECTLY TO FONMIN, TOKYO.
CROSS

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